

NOAA FY2002 BUDGET FACT SHEET

Community-Based Restoration

NOAA Fisheries requests an increase of \$2 million under the Fisheries Habitat Restoration budget line (for a total FY2002 request of \$10 million) to strengthen its Community-Based Restoration Program (CRP) and continue restoration efforts in Tampa Bay, Florida and Bronx River, New York at \$1 million each.

In 1996, the NOAA Restoration Center formulated a highly successful program to involve communities in marine and estuarine habitat restoration. The program reaches out to local constituencies to accomplish meaningful, grass-roots restoration projects. Projects are often identified by community groups, and are successful because they have significant local support. Projects depend upon citizens' hands-on involvement to implement and monitor the restoration.

FY2001 Community-Based Restoration Appropriated

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Program Funding</u>
Fisheries	\$8 million general CRP
Habitat	\$10 million special area restoration
Restoration	total = \$18 Million

FY2002 Community-Based Restoration Requested

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Program Funding Requested</u>
Fisheries	\$10 million general CRP
Habitat	\$ 2 million special area restoration
Restoration	total = \$12 Million

Partnering with NOAA Restoration Center

NOAA solicits proposals for locally-driven, on-the-ground habitat restoration projects that address important fishery habitat issues within communities. Through FY2000, 180 projects have been funded, with many more awards expected in FY2001. Partnering under the CRP is accomplished at three levels. National Partnerships occur with organizations that are able to invest their own resources in community-based marine and anadromous fish habitat projects. Regional Partnerships are developed with multiple organizations that are willing to work jointly with the NOAA Restoration Center across a significant geographic area to fund and implement community projects consistent with agreed upon regional priorities.



Restoration Partnerships

Partnerships are a key element in community efforts to accomplish significant, on-the-ground habitat restoration. National partnerships have leveraged NOAA funds up to 10:1, enabling NOAA to assist a greater number of coastal communities. Partnerships foster stronger relations among federal and state agencies, conservation organizations, fishing and non-fishing industries, and local communities. They also encourage the sharing and distribution of technical expertise and promote stewardship and a heightened conservation ethic for natural resources. Restoring and protecting the Nation's living marine resources would be greatly limited without the advantages of partnerships and community involvement.

The NOAA Restoration Center also provides direct funding for outstanding restoration projects that are evaluated for technical merit, community involvement and ecological benefit to marine and anadromous fish habitat. Experience has shown that the Community-Based Restoration Program makes a world of difference to fishery resources, communities and environmental stewardship.

For more information, contact
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